

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to announce that I have just introduced legislation making it possible for every legal immigrant serving on active duty in America's Armed Forces to become a U.S. citizen immediately. Not in 3 years or 5 years, but immediately.

Once this bill is enacted, providing that all other requirements are met, on the same day that a young person is mustered into duty in our Armed Forces, he or she will be able to take the oath of office making them a citizen of the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, these patriotic men and women have willingly volunteered to carry out one of the most solemn duties that any nation can ask of its citizens, the defense of freedom. Thus, more than most, I believe that they have truly earned their opportunity to become citizens of the country whose uniform they wear so proudly.

By enacting the Armed Services Citizens Act, America can do the right thing for some very brave men and women who are doing the right thing for America. So, Mr. Speaker, let us recognize their love of this country by enabling legal immigrants serving America's Armed Forces to become citizens before, not after, they begin risking their lives to defend ours.

GETTING THE ECONOMY GROWING AGAIN

(Mr. WEXLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WEXLER. Mr. Speaker, to get our economy growing again, we need policies that encourage investment and job creation, especially in high-technology industries like telecommunications.

Just this past month, FCC Chairman Powell tried to encourage more facilities-based competition in the local exchange markets. That balanced approach, however, was abandoned in favor of keeping most of the old rules and regulations, despite predictions that it would discourage plant upgrades, new network installation, and new jobs. Surprisingly, the White House was silent when the plans of its own FCC chairman were sidelined.

Mr. Speaker, the Clinton administration took a strong pro-growth, pro-jobs approach in the technology and telecom sector. The Bush administration, in contrast, seems wedded to an almost unchanging policy of benign neglect. I have over 50 facilities and 900 workers in my district that cannot tolerate this benign neglect. Under the present administration, America has lost \$2 trillion in the telecommunications industry, computer investment has been erased, and 300,000 American technology workers have lost their jobs.

TRIBUTE TO DENTON HIGH SCHOOL'S LADY BRONCOS

(Mr. BURGESS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, it turns out the third time was a charm for the women's soccer team of Denton High School in Denton, Texas. Mr. Speaker, I want today to recognize the Lady Broncos, Denton High School's women's soccer team, for winning their first State title this past Saturday.

Freshman Ashley Hornisher scored the game-winning goal after receiving a corner kick from sophomore Lisa Stephens in order to win the Class A State championship.

Coach Iseed Khoury, who led the Lady Broncos in a 28-2 season, said "This is the result of all the hard work our kids have put in over the years. We're a powerhouse now."

Denton senior Julie Naugher, a midfielder, was named the State tournament's Most Valuable Player. Ashley Wilson, a sophomore midfielder, sent a free kick from 40 yards out to Naugher in the box, who then headed the ball into the goal to tie the game in the first half.

Mr. Speaker, I especially want to recognize the Denton Lady Bronco seniors: Erin Cadenhead, Jennifer Dower, Julie Naugher, Annie Lowe, Callie Lawing, JennMia Nilsson, Katherine Clark, Christine Hornisher, and Bente Bekkhus.

I hope my colleagues will join me in honoring these fine young ladies and congratulating them on a season of hard work and commitment that paid off.

CREATING NEW JOBS

(Mr. EMANUEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to echo what other speakers on both sides of the aisle have talked about, talking about jobs, creating new jobs, saving jobs now in jeopardy as our economy continues to deteriorate.

I am privileged to represent one of the most ethnically diverse districts in the Nation. Jobs in my district prove that the American dream is alive and well and that anything is possible through hard work.

On February 20, the FCC had an opportunity to create and save jobs while boosting the economy. Since 2000, we have lost 2½ million jobs in this country. Instead, this decision means job losses in the long term, for the Nation's telecom sector and for my home State of Illinois.

The FCC's decision also means companies will not be able to make critical investments in the area of broadband deployment. It means an entire segment of the U.S. economy faces a future of uncertainty for its employers

and customers. The job-loss message was heard loud and clear. One analyst of the industry wrote, and I quote, "Usually a decision of this magnitude would bring with it greater certainty and clarity. Yet, in this instance, we believe the issue is as confused and as uncertain as ever."

Mr. Speaker, I encourage the administration to remember that uncertainty leads to job loss, both on Main Street and on Wall Street.

CITIZEN PATRIOTISM

(Mr. TERRY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, perhaps more than ever in our Nation's history, at least since the Revolutionary War, our citizens are rising up to their responsibilities to be on guard and report suspicious behavior and activities. Often these patriotic deeds go unnoticed and unheralded. This is true of one such person in my district.

Harvey Rothman, a resident of Omaha, Nebraska, in 1987 was working as a trade specialist for the U.S. Department of Commerce. During that time, he received a phone call from a businessman who believed that some of his product was being delivered illegally to the country of Libya.

Based on that information, Mr. ROTHMAN brought the businessmen together with the Commerce's Department of Export Administration. That led to an investigation revealing that \$275,000 in steel pipe was being diverted from Hanover, Germany, to the terrorist country Libya. As a result, an additional quarter million dollars' worth of product destined to this same terrorist country was canceled.

Mr. Speaker, I bring this story to the attention of the House now not to give Harvey Rothman a pat on the back, which he has deserved over these past many years, but because it is a wonderful example to all our citizens that their watchfulness and vigilance could save lives and stop our enemies from terrorist acts.

□ 1030

GO HUSKIES

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the UConn Huskies for winning their fourth NCAA women's basketball championship and their third in four seasons. The victory is inspirational because the Huskies overcame incredible odds, having only one starting player return from last year's championship team.

With this title victory, there can be no doubt that our Huskies are certain to be remembered as one of the greatest basketball teams in sports history.